



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 27 March 2003

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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## Daily Overview

- The Bangkok Post reports World Health Organization officials believe severe acute respiratory syndrome, spreading swiftly across the world, is linked to the outbreak which began last November in China's southern province of Guangdong, bordering Hong Kong. (See item [25](#))
- The Washington Post reports the FBI said on Tuesday that authorities want to question Aafia Siddiqui and her husband, Mohammed Khan, about possible terrorist activities and ties to Adnan G. El Shukrijumah, a suspected al Qaeda member. (See item [28](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS03-010: Flaw in RPC Endpoint Mapper Could Allow Denial of Service Attacks," and a patch for Windows 2000 and Windows XP users is available at the Microsoft website. (See item [30](#))
- The CERT/CC has issued "Advisory CA-2003-11: Multiple Vulnerabilities in Lotus Notes and Domino," to help clarify the details of vulnerabilities affecting Lotus Notes clients and Domino servers. (See item [31](#))

### DHS/IAIP Update Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

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IT and Cyber: [Information and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: High, Cyber: High**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

*March 26, Associated Press* — **Officials seek to close New York nuke plant.** The war with Iraq and the fear of reprisals on U.S. soil are stoking the strongest campaign ever to close the Indian Point nuclear power station, 35 miles north of midtown Manhattan. **Forty municipalities and 280 elected officials in three states have endorsed a shutdown of the twin, 1970s-era reactors owned by New Orleans-based Entergy Corp. The officials include eight members of Congress.** Backed by a recent independent study, critics say the densely populated area around Indian Point cannot be protected from radiation that could be released in a major accident or terror attack. Local and state officials have refused to certify the existing Indian Point emergency plan as sufficient in an age of terrorist threats. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will soon have to declare some plan workable, or begin a process that could lead to a shutdown. **Security concerns that arose after the Sept. 11 attack – when hijacked American Airlines Flight 11 flew over Indian Point on its way to the World Trade Center – led New York to commission an independent review of the plant's emergency plan.**

Source: <http://wtopnews.com/index.php?nid=104ont>>

2. *March 26, Platts Global Energy News* — **EC mulls ban on flights over nukes, nuclear transports.** European Union member states should consider measures to strengthen nuclear safety following the start of war in Iraq, according to a European Commission (EC) internal paper. **The paper, produced by the EC's Energy & Transport Directorate General (DG TREN) and due to be discussed at a weekly meeting Wednesday, proposes a ban on flights over sensitive facilities and a temporary ban on transport of nuclear materials between power plants and storage or disposal centers.** The paper argues that while materials are secure on sites, they are "more vulnerable" during transportation. Other measures proposed include a permanent alert system and strengthened controls on access to all installations. The EC reviewed measures to strengthen nuclear safety following the Sep 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. But the new series of measures concerns other aspects, such as the physical security of installations, use of radioactive materials in medicine or industry, and tightening of general controls. **The paper proposes tighter controls over radioactive materials not used as nuclear fuel. There are in the EU "significant quantities of highly radioactive materials" used in the medical, industrial, or agricultural sectors. These are not subject to the same criteria imposed on the nuclear industry,** TREN says. TREN proposes members oblige operators to declare all radioactive sources and impose sanctions on non-compliance.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/nuclear1.html>

3. *March 26, Reuters* — **U.S. Navy: Iraq's gulf oil terminals ready.** Iraq's vital Gulf oil export terminal of Mina al-Bakr has escaped attempted sabotage and stands ready to resume operations, a U.S. Navy spokesman said on Wednesday. U.S. forces secured the offshore facility in the early stages of fighting. **It handled some one million barrels per day of crude sales before the U.S.-led war forced an end to exports. "Everything is good to go in that regard," said Commander Kevin Aandahl of the U.S. Navy, referring to the possibility of restarting operations from the facility that exports more than half of Iraq's U.N.-supervised oil sales.** Aandahl said U.S. forces, in gaining control of the area, had discovered signs of attempted sabotage to the installation. Mine clearing operations by U.S.-led forces are continuing in the northern Gulf area, he said.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A30727-2003Mar 26.html>

4. *March 26, Washington Post* — **Natural gas line proposed in Alaska.** A plan to tap huge energy resources in Alaska to head off future shortages in the rest of the United States is being revived in Congress. **But this time, the energy is natural gas, not the protected and contested oil reserves of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.** Alaskan legislators and two major oil companies are asking Congress to underwrite part of the estimated \$20 billion cost of constructing a 3,600-mile pipeline connecting Alaska's North Slope with the U.S. heartland. **The project could deliver as much as 4.5 billion cubic feet of gas daily — equal to 8 percent of today's U.S. gas production — to the Midwest after completion in 2012.** The project has been almost ignored in public debate, compared with the furious battle over opening the arctic refuge. The Bush administration fought for the refuge venture, which was shelved by the Senate earlier this month. It has not made the pipeline a top priority. **But experts say the Alaskan gas may be far more important to the nation's energy future than Alaska's oil would be if gas production from wells in the lower 48 states continues to fall off. Gas is the fuel of choice for new power-plant construction and an essential home-heating source.**  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A28874-2003Mar 25.html>
5. *March 25, Reuters* — **Buffett firm plans largest land wind farm, in Iowa.** A power company controlled by billionaire investor Warren Buffett said on Tuesday it plans to build, somewhere in Iowa, the largest land-based wind farm in the world. **The \$323 million, 310-megawatt project, to be built by MidAmerican Energy Co. in northwest or north-central Iowa, would have 180 to 200 turbines with the capacity to generate electricity for more than 300,000 homes on completion, which is expected in 2006.** The wind farm, which would require approval by the Iowa Public Utilities Board and state legislation on the ownership and operations of renewable energy sources, would top a 300-megawatt project near the Oregon-California border as the largest land-based wind farm in the world. **Texas and California also are big generators of wind power, and the U.S. had total capacity of about 4,700 megawatts at the end of 2002, according to the American Wind Energy Association.** Germany is the biggest wind power nation, with more than 12,000 megawatts in total capacity, while Ireland has approved plans to build a 520-megawatt wind station in the Irish Sea.  
Source: [http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw\\_article.cfm?id=3732855](http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3732855)
6. *March 25, Platts Global Energy News* — **U.S. refiners face security, supply issues. The U.S. petroleum industry is working with government agencies to devise rules for securing facilities from terrorist attacks,** ConocoPhillips CEO Jim Mulva said Tuesday. Speaking at the National Petroleum Refiner's annual meeting, he said "several companies, trade associations and key government agencies are **developing an assessment methodology" for security at refineries, terminals and petrochemicals complexes.**" Mulva noted ConocoPhillips recently spent \$5-mil at one plant to upgrade security there. Mulva said refiners are facing several "critical issues" at the moment, including: facility security, upcoming changes in fuel specifications, uncertain feedstock supply, "unprecedented" price volatility and an uncertain economic outlook.  
Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/petrochemicals4.html>
7. *March 25, Platts Global Energy News* — **Homeland Security to take closer look at U.S. energy assets.** The Homeland Security Department's Office of Energy Assurance (OEA) expects to conduct many more vulnerability assessments at U.S. energy facilities in the coming year, James McDonnell, the agency's director of infrastructure protection, said Tuesday at a

security conference in Arlington, Virginia. OEA, which was transferred to the new Cabinet agency from the Department of Energy, has to date completed roughly 65 vulnerability assessments, and that number will increase pretty dramatically as the office's annual budget for assessments balloons from about \$8-mil to more than \$450-mil, he said. The office will continue to emphasize cooperation rather than regulation in working with the owners and operators of power plants and other energy facilities to make their sites more secure from terrorist attacks.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/electricpower3.html>

8. *March 25, Industrial Maintenance and Plant Operation* — **Report predicts growing U.S. dependence on natural-gas imports.** A report from an energy research group predicts that increasing U.S. demand for natural gas, coupled with a decline in North American production, will create a supply gap that can only be filled by greater imports of liquified natural gas. **According to the Massachusetts-based Cambridge Energy Research Associates, the nation's long-standing ability to meet most of its natural-gas needs from North American sources will end as demand for the clean-burning fuel doubles in the next 20 years. A key reason for the growing demand is that natural gas is a clean energy source compared to coal and oil. While most of the nation's electricity is still generated by coal-fired plants, new plants are often powered by natural gas.** The report predicts that natural-gas providers will seek greater production from areas such as the Rocky Mountains, Alaska, the Gulf of Mexico and Canada in its efforts to maximize production on the continent.

Source: [http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma\\_newsarticle1\\_national.htm?SMDOCID=cahners\\_2003\\_03\\_25\\_eng-cahners\\_eng-cahners\\_085040\\_1655860048368255042a>](http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_national.htm?SMDOCID=cahners_2003_03_25_eng-cahners_eng-cahners_085040_1655860048368255042a>)

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## **Chemical Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

9. *March 26, Reuters* — **U.S. 4th Infantry division heading for Gulf. The United States is flying its high-tech 4th Infantry Division and other units totaling more than 30,000 troops to the Gulf to join the invasion of Iraq, the military said on Wednesday.** Troops from the division, based at Fort Hood, Texas, and considered one of the most modern fighting forces in the military, will begin flying to the Gulf region in coming days to join its heavy armor and equipment, a spokesman at Fort Hood told Reuters. **The division, with a total of 16,000 troops at Fort Hood and Fort Carson, Colorado, has been awaiting deployment for more than two months. It was originally scheduled to go to Turkey to open a northern front against Baghdad, but Ankara refused to grant transition basing rights for American forces.**

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A31596-2003Mar\\_26.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A31596-2003Mar_26.html)

10.

*March 26, Los Angeles Times* — **Airwave transfer debate renewed.** Accommodating growing consumer demand for high-speed mobile Internet access — as well as for ordinary cell phone calls — is a crucial challenge for the White House. **The administration is trying to balance the wireless industry's voracious appetite for new spectrum capacity against national security concerns.** There is also a potential government windfall that would come from the sale of billions of dollars' worth of military airwaves to mobile phone carriers. **Steven Price, deputy assistant secretary of Defense for spectrum, told a congressional panel Tuesday that in the war in Iraq, "we would not have been able to pinpoint and accurately target enemy leadership" without the wireless connections that link global positioning satellites to precision-guided bombs and missiles.** Administration officials have said they are sympathetic to the Pentagon's concerns but believe they can accomplish the airwave transfer without compromising national security. The telecommunications subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee is weighing a bill that would establish a trust fund of about \$1 billion to compensate the military for the move. Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) says he plans to introduce similar legislation in the Senate. **But the Defense Department's Price told the House panel that any relocation of military airwaves will be more expensive and protracted than envisioned by lawmakers. He also cautioned that it might hamper the military's ability to coordinate with allies whose combat communications equipment often operates on the same frequencies.**

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-war-spectrum26mar26.1.370278.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dbusiness>

11. *March 26, Washington Technology* — **Embedded in war: Contractors give crucial support to military.** While contractors have long provided support functions to the military, industry executives said their companies have become more involved in operations and planning, even since the first Gulf War a decade ago. **"The role of contractors has increased dramatically as the role of information technology has increased,"** said Harris Miller, president of the Information Technology Association of America in Arlington, Va. **"Seventy percent to 80 percent of the weapons have some sort of smart weapon capabilities, as opposed to just 30 percent of weapons in the first Gulf War."**

Source: [http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/17\\_24/cover-stories/20325-1.html](http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/17_24/cover-stories/20325-1.html)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Transportation Sector**

12. *March 26, Los Angeles Times* — **Airport shows off decontamination units.** Worries about anthrax were confined to cattle ranches in the Midwest when Michael DiGirolamo first suggested that the city purchase a decontamination unit for Los Angeles International Airport. **Five years later, LAX is one of three airports in the country, including Ontario and Dallas/Fort Worth international airports, that have such units available to help clean**



people after a chemical or biological attack, an aviation fuel spill or a natural disaster. DiGirolamo requested the decontamination systems, which cost \$243,000 each, in 1998 after a 1995 nerve gas attack on rush-hour commuters in a Tokyo subway. **Only recently has the city decided to publicize the units to reassure travelers that the airport — cited as the state's No. 1 terrorist target in a recent government report — is ready to handle the fallout from a biological or chemical attack.** Mayor James K. Hahn got a firsthand look at how the units operate Tuesday at a crowded demonstration outside the airport's Imperial Terminal. "After spending time touring the LAX decontamination units, I remain convinced that LAX is one of the world's safest airports," Hahn said. **"As a result of the current global climate and the high state of alert, I'm requesting [the city agency that operates the airport] purchase two additional units as a precautionary measure."** The request is the latest in a series of efforts by city and federal officials to increase security at the world's fifth-busiest airport. Hahn has announced numerous measures, including more cameras and tighter perimeter security, since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and last year's deadly July 4 shooting at the Tom Bradley International Terminal.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-war-lax26mar26.1.427646.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dcalifornia>

13. *March 26, Los Angeles Times* — **Guard troops to aid LAX security. Gov. Gray Davis announced Tuesday that he is deploying an infantry platoon of up to 50 National Guard troops to provide additional security at Los Angeles International Airport.** City officials have said police officers need help at a facility identified by the state as one of the top potential terrorist targets in California. Unlike steps taken after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, when Guard troops helped screen passengers in the terminals, **the new deployment will be responsible for security at the entrances to terminals and around the perimeter of the airport, including the sand dunes west of the runways.** Davis said the Guard troops plan to begin airport security patrols by Thursday, and will stay as long as the national security alert is at orange, which he said is likely to last for the remainder of the war in Iraq.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-natlguard26mar26.1.5467146.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dcalifornia>

14. *March 25, U.S. Department of Transportation* — **Flight-100 FAA authorization proposal charts new century of safer, more efficient aviation.** U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta submitted to the Congress on Tuesday the Bush Administration's four-year aviation reauthorization proposal. **The Centennial of Flight Aviation Authorization Act (Flight-100) provides a substantial investment in safety research, air traffic control modernization, airport infrastructure improvements and environmental initiatives. Flight-100 will further ensure the highest possible levels of safety throughout the aviation system by continuing to fund important infrastructure improvements and improving the FAA's research and development program.** The proposal provides \$2.9 billion in FY 2004 for FAA facilities and equipment, rising to \$3.1 billion by 2007. To improve efficiency, the agency would receive \$7.5 billion in FY 2004 for operations and maintenance, a 7 percent increase over the FY 2003 budget request. These funds support implementation of the FAA's Operational Evolution Plan, the acceleration of airspace redesign and future air traffic controller staffing needs. The proposal includes \$100 million for safety research, engineering and development in FY 2004.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot02203.htm>

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

15. *March 26, Washington Times* — Switch to radiation, nuke monitors 'dangerously slow'.  
The Bush administration's deployment of technology to detect nuclear and radiological materials and weapons smuggled into the country is "dangerously slow," key lawmakers said Tuesday. The government began installing radiation portal monitors along the borders and at ports in November, but, by the U.S. Customs Service's own assessment, **only 5 percent of border entry points will be operational by the end of March.** Republican and Democratic lawmakers wrote a letter to their colleagues and administration officials, including Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, stating that "**...existing gaps in our system to detect radiological and nuclear materials moving across our ports and borders require particularly urgent attention.**" House committee staffers conducted an 18-month investigation to assess the threat of nuclear terrorism. They visited three foreign countries and toured two dozen ports of entry into the United States. **While the initial strategy to uncover nuclear threats was found to be "well-conceived," investigators reported an "inability to detect radiological or nuclear weapons imported into the United States."** Lawmakers urged the Department of Homeland Security to request emergency funding to install vehicular radiation portal monitors at the nation's borders. **The cost to outfit all major points of entry is estimated as high as \$500 million.**  
Source: <http://washingtontimes.com/national/20030326-28688410.htm>
16. *March 25, Federal Register* — Final rule on security zone for liquefied natural gas tankers in Cook Inlet, AK. The Coast Guard adopts, as final, the interim rule published in July 2002 that established security zones for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) tankers in Cook Inlet, AK, within the Western Alaska Marine Inspection Zone and Captain of the Port Zone. This final rule includes an effective information collection requirement calling for vessel and crew information from the owners or operators of commercial fishing vessels desiring to fish within the security zone. **The final rule establishes 1000- yard security zones around LNG tankers to safeguard the tankers, Nikiski marine terminals, the community of Nikiski, and the maritime community from sabotage or subversive acts and incidents of a similar nature.**  
Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-6981.htm>
17. *March 25, Federal Register* — Coast Guard issues a temporary final rule establishing security zones in Tampa Bay, Port of Tampa, Port of Saint Petersburg, Port Manatee, Rattlesnake, Old Port Tampa, Big Bend, Weedon Island, and Crystal River, FL. The Coast Guard is establishing security zones in Tampa Bay, Port of Tampa, Port of Saint Petersburg, Port Manatee, Rattlesnake, Old Port Tampa, Big Bend, Weedon Island, and Crystal River, FL. **These zones are needed to ensure public safety and security in the greater Tampa Bay area. Entry into these zones would be prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port, or their designated representative. This rule is effective from March 7, 2003 through June 30, 2003.** The Captain of the Port of Tampa has determined that these security zones are necessary to protect the public, ports, and waterways of the United States from potential

subversive acts. These security zones are similar to the existing temporary security zones established for vessels, waterfront facilities and bridges that will soon expire.

Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocke.t.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-6982.htm>

18. *March 24, Federal Register* — The Coast Guard establishes a security zone from Ohio River mile 119.0 to 119.8, Natrium, WV. The Coast Guard is establishing a security zone encompassing all waters extending 200 feet from the water's edge of the left descending bank of the Ohio River, beginning from mile marker 119.0 and ending at mile marker 119.8. This security zone is necessary to protect Pittsburgh Plate Glass Industries (PPG), persons and vessels from subversive or terrorist acts. Entry of persons and vessels into this security zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Coast Guard Captain of the Port Pittsburgh or a designated representative. **This rule is effective beginning March 15, 2003.**

Source: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocke.t.access.gpo.gov/2003/03-6916.htm>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

19. *March 26, North County Times* — **Task force: \$70.4M spent to combat Newcastle Disease.** Task force: \$70.4M spent to combat Newcastle Disease **The state–federal task force in charge of stopping Exotic Newcastle Disease said Monday that it has spent \$70.4 million since the disease was discovered in California last fall.** The task force is being led by the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). **In late February, the last time the task force released figures on the cost of Exotic Newcastle, it said the state had spent \$13 million and the federal government had spent \$22 million.** Spokeswoman Leticia Rico said the task force is no longer breaking down the amount each agency has spent because "the USDA is paying for it all."

Source: <http://www.nctimes.net/news/2003/20030326/55717.html>

20. *March 26, United Press International* — **Dead elk had chronic wasting disease. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources said Wednesday an elk killed in a fight with another elk on a farm in northeastern Wisconsin tested positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD), the first appearance of the disease in that part of the state.** The ailing 6–year–old female elk was one of 20 imported to a Manitowoc County farm from Stearns, MN in December 2000 and January 2001. One of the elk died earlier but was not tested for the disease. **The remaining elk were killed last Friday for testing at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa.**

Source: <http://www.upi.com/view.cfm?StoryID=20030326-111459-9962r>

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## **Food Sector**

Nothing to report.



## **Water Sector**

21. *March 26, Water Tech Online* — **Water security challenges being met, says EPA head. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Christie Whitman said Tuesday the nation's water utilities are meeting the security challenges facing a nation where all utilities are on high terror alert as the United States wages war in Iraq.** Whitman was the keynote speaker at the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Water Security Congress. Whitman, calling the quality of America's water supply the safest in the world, said that the security efforts are "a model for the nation's infrastructure. **Whitman said scientists and researchers are improving the industry's ability to prevent an attack against the water supply and that the EPA is developing partnerships with other countries to share best practices in securing water supplies.**

Source: <http://www.watertechonline.com/news.asp?mode=4font>>

## **Public Health Sector**

22. *March 26, New York Times* — **China bars WHO experts from origin site of illness. A team of experts sent to China by the World Health Organization (WHO) to investigate a mysterious respiratory illness there has not been allowed to visit the province where the disease is thought to have originated in November, agency officials said yesterday.** It is the second WHO team since early February to be denied access to Guangdong Province, just north of Hong Kong. Chinese officials have reported 305 cases in Guangdong from November to February, 5 of them fatal. They say the disease died out on its own. **But because outside experts have been stalled in their efforts to go to Guangdong, there has been no independent verification of the number of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) cases in China, whether cases have occurred elsewhere in the country and whether transmission has stopped. Epidemiologists investigating SARS elsewhere say they suspect the number of cases in China may be much higher than 305.** The team also wants to interview patients who became ill, doctors and other health workers who cared for them and laboratory scientists to find out what they found in specimens from patients with the ailment.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/03/26/health/26INFE.html>

23. *March 26, Reuters* — **U.S. probes death of nurse vaccinated for smallpox. U.S. health officials said on Tuesday they were investigating whether the smallpox vaccine had contributed to the death last weekend of a Maryland nurse and serious side effects in six other people recently inoculated against the virus.** The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which has been spearheading a campaign to vaccinate almost half a million front-line healthcare workers and technicians, said it was recommending that people with heart disease not be vaccinated until an investigation was completed. **"We're adding a temporary deferral for the smallpox vaccine for persons who have been diagnosed with a history of heart disease," CDC spokeswoman Karen Hunter said.** Hunter added that the unidentified Maryland woman had suffered from heart disease before being vaccinated.

Source: <http://asia.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNewsstoryID=2452828>

24. *March 26, Minneapolis Star Tribune* — **Lyme disease total soars in Minnesota.** Lyme disease struck a record number of people in Minnesota and Wisconsin last year, prompting health officials in both states to warn that it's critical to guard against tick bites this summer. **In Minnesota, 867 people developed Lyme disease last year, an 88 percent increase over 2001, according to new state Health Department data. In Wisconsin, cases were up 39 percent last year to 890.** The disease, which can cause heart damage, neurological problems and arthritis, has been increasing for a decade. One theory for the dramatic jump is that warm, moist weather in recent years has caused an explosion of deer ticks, which spread the disease. **Adding to Minnesota officials' worries is the concurrent and rapid increase of another serious tick-borne disease: human granulocytic ehrlichiosis (HGE). Cases of HGE, which also is spread by the deer tick, rose 61 percent from the previous year to 150.** HGE causes fatal complications in 2 to 3 percent of those infected, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/stories/1556/3781962.html>

25. *March 26, Bangkok Post* — **China raises death toll from five to 31.** China dramatically raised the death toll from a mystery virus Tuesday and Singapore closed all schools in a bid to control an outbreak of pneumonia that has now killed at least 50 people worldwide and infected more than 1,000. Singapore, which has quarantined more than 700 people with flu-like symptoms, reported its first death from severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) Tuesday. Nearly 70 people are infected in Singapore and 11 are in serious condition. In Hong Kong officials yesterday hunted for dozens of foreign visitors who may have been exposed. World Health Organization officials believe SARS, spreading swiftly across the world, is linked to the outbreak in China's southern province of Guangdong, bordering Hong Kong, which began in November, but they have yet to prove it scientifically. **Chinese officials said 24 people had died of atypical pneumonia in Guangzhou and seven in six other Guangdong cities by the end of February. They said nearly 800 people had been infected. Previously, they had reported 305 infections and five deaths. The Chinese government has yet to admit any cases have occurred in the nation's capital, but doctors have confirmed two deaths.** Sars has spread to Hong Kong, Vietnam, Singapore, Canada, and Germany, infecting nearly 500. Suspected cases have been reported in the United States, Britain, and Australia.

Source: [http://www.bangkokpost.com/News/27Mar2003\\_news21.html](http://www.bangkokpost.com/News/27Mar2003_news21.html)

26. *March 26, Reuters* — **Canadian province sees more cases of deadly virus. Health officials in Ontario, Canada's most populous province, identified on Tuesday another eight probable cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). Province health officials restricted access to the Toronto hospital where some of the first Canadian cases appeared and said they may quarantine the homes of several hundred people who could have been exposed to the illness.** A Toronto school was ordered closed until March 31 after it was learned there were a number of students with unexplained fevers consistent with symptoms of the illness. **Ontario has now seen 18 probable cases and five suspected cases of the illness. Three of the probable cases have died. Another 25 people, including nurses and other healthcare staff, are being monitored closely for symptoms.**

Source: <http://asia.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNewsstoryID=2452820>

## **Government Sector**

27. *March 26, Washington Post* — **Release of documents is delayed.** The Bush administration on Tuesday night issued an order delaying the release of millions of government documents and giving the government new powers to reclassify information. **The order, rewriting a Clinton administration directive, allows the government to delay until the end of 2006 the release of documents that otherwise would have been out by April 17 under a program of automatic declassification after 25 years. The government now has more discretion to keep information classified indefinitely if it falls within a broad definition of national security.** In addition to the three-year delay in the release of information already scheduled for release under the 25-year automatic declassification, **the order continues to exempt various pieces of information from future automatic declassification**, including "information that would assist in the development or use of weapons of mass destruction"; information that would harm "national security emergency preparedness plans or reveal current vulnerabilities"; information "that would impair the application of state of the art technology within a U.S. weapon system"; and information that would "impair relations between the United States and a foreign government."  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A29446-2003Mar 25.html>

28. *March 26, Washington Post* — **FBI seeking Pakistani pair over possible al Qaeda link.** Authorities hunting for a suspected Saudi al Qaeda member from South Florida have expanded the search to include a Pakistani couple with suspected links to the man, authorities said on Tuesday. **The FBI's Baltimore office said on Tuesday that authorities want to question Aafia Siddiqui and her husband, Mohammed Khan, 33, about possible terrorist activities. Authorities in Florida say the couple may have ties to Adnan G. El Shukrijumah, 27, a suspected al Qaeda member who lived in suburban Miami at one time. The FBI said Siddiqui, 31, a resident of the Boston area, had visited Gaithersburg in late December or January. They declined to say who she was visiting or why. "We would be interested in talking to Siddiqui. She may have valuable information," said Barry Maddox, an FBI spokesman in Baltimore.** Authorities said Siddiqui has a doctorate in neurological science and has studied at MIT and Brandeis University in the Boston area, as well as in Houston, TX. Siddiqui listed her home as Karachi, Pakistan. The FBI's Web site lists her whereabouts as unknown but adds that the bureau believes she is in Pakistan. While at MIT, she wrote a lengthy paper on the mechanics of setting up a Muslim student organization.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A29408-2003Mar 25.html>

29. *March 25, The White House* — **Report on information identified as necessary by the Department of State to screen visa applicants and the Department of Homeland Security to screen applicants for admission to the United States.** The Bush Administration has prepared a report for Congress identifying Federal law enforcement and intelligence community information identified as necessary by the Department of State (DOS) to screen visa applicants and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to screen applicants for admission to the United States, and to identify those aliens inadmissible or deportable under the Immigration and Nationality Act. **In the short term, the Department of Homeland Security will work to**

virtually consolidate or link watch lists from multiple agencies and create a homeland security portal for users at all levels of government. Additionally, consular officers and immigration inspectors have access to more complete intelligence and criminal history information through the Interagency Border Inspection System (IBIS) and the Consular Lookout and Support System (CLASS). Since September 11, more than seven million names of persons with Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) records were added to CLASS so that now it contains approximately 13 million name records from DOS, DHS, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and intelligence resources. The U.S. Customs Service has also provided 20,000 name records of serious violators to CLASS. The CLASS now has over 78,000 records of suspected terrorists, up 40 percent in the past year. Since September 11, 2001, approximately 20,000 new terrorist lookouts have been entered into the DOS's TIPOFF system.

Source: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/03/20030326-2.h tml>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

30. *March 26, Microsoft* — Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03-010: Flaw in RPC Endpoint Mapper Could Allow Denial of Service Attacks. There is a vulnerability in the part of Remote Procedure Call (RPC) that deals with message exchange over TCP/IP due to incorrect handling of malformed messages. This vulnerability affects the RPC Endpoint Mapper process, which listens on TCP/IP port 135. To exploit this vulnerability, an attacker would need to establish a TCP/IP connection to the Endpoint Mapper process on a remote machine. Once the connection was established, the attacker would begin the RPC connection negotiation before transmitting a malformed message. At this point, the process on the remote machine would fail. The RPC Endpoint Mapper process is responsible for maintaining the connection information for all of the processes on that machine using RPC. Because the Endpoint Mapper runs within the RPC service itself, **exploiting this vulnerability would cause the RPC service to fail**, with the attendant loss of any RPC-based services the server offers, as well as potential loss of some COM functions. **A patch is available at the Microsoft website for Windows 2000 and Windows XP. However, Microsoft is unable to provide a patch for this vulnerability for Windows NT 4.0 and users are encouraged to employ the workaround posted on the Microsoft website**, which is to protect the NT 4.0 system with a firewall that blocks Port 135.

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS03-010.asp>

31. *March 26, CERT/CC* — CERT Advisory CA-2003-11: Multiple Vulnerabilities in Lotus Notes and Domino. In February 2003, NGS Software released several advisories detailing vulnerabilities affecting Lotus Notes clients and Domino servers. Multiple reporters, the

close timing, and some ambiguity caused confusion about what releases are vulnerable. The impact of these vulnerabilities range from denial of service to data corruption and the potential to execute arbitrary code. **The CERT/CC has issued an advisory to help clarify the details of the vulnerabilities, the versions affected, and the patches that resolve these issues.**

Please refer to the CERT website for additional information.

Source: <http://www.cert.org/advisories/CA-2003-11.html>



32. *March 26, Federal Computer Week* — **Bill would close spectrum loophole. Two congressional lawmakers have reintroduced a bill to ensure that TV broadcasters transfer a 24 MHz piece of spectrum to public safety officials by 2006.** The Homeland Emergency Response Operations (HERO) Act, co-sponsored by Reps. Jane Harman (D-CA) and Curt Weldon (R-PA), was introduced March 25 and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. **H.R. 1425 firmly sets a December 31, 2006, deadline for the transition, closing what some say is a loophole that would allow broadcasters to continue to use the channels if digital TV wasn't received by a certain percentage of American households.** In 1997, Congress passed a law authorizing the Federal Communications Commission to re-allocate radio spectrum from 764 MHz to 776 MHz and from 794 MHz to 806 MHz. TV broadcasters currently use that spectrum (channels 63, 64, 68 and 69), and the law called for it to be re-allocated for public safety uses. **The requirement was based on the previous year's Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee report that public safety agencies lacked adequate radio spectrum and that would hamper emergency responses.** Under the current legislation, TV broadcasters have until December 31, 2006, to move or until 85 percent of the households in a market have access to digital TV signals, whichever is later.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2003/0324/web-spectrum-03-26-03.asp>

33. *March 26, Government Computer News* — **Wireless infrastructure goes unguarded. The national wireless infrastructure "is one of the most important and least protected parts" of U.S. communications capability,** a technology strategist said today. David Porte, an executive with technology incubator Astrolabe Innovations of Cambridge, Mass., said the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001, were a case in point. Porte spoke at a Newport, R.I., conference sponsored by the National High-Performance Computing and Communications Council. The trade center towers housed hubs for multiple types of communications, he said: broadcast, land-line telecommunications and cellular phones. Yet when the towers fell, "cell phones became the primary means of national security communications," Porte said. The result was widespread congestion with a ripple effect that ended in loss of many communications spokes, he said. Lack of wireless interoperability also interfered with government communication in that crisis. **The wireline infrastructure, although the first to go down on September 11, "was the first to recover because of built-in redundancy,"** he said. Porte encouraged greater density of cells and wireless hubs, saying, **"Government and industry need to get wireless ready for emergencies."**

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/vol1\\_no1/daily-updates/21500-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/21500-1.html)



Current Alert Levels	
 <p>AlertCon: 1 out of 4  <a href="https://gtoc.iss.net">https://gtoc.iss.net</a></p>	 <p>Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4  <a href="http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/">http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/</a></p>
Current Virus and Port Attacks	
<b>Virus:</b>	#1 Virus in the United States: <b>PE_NIMDA.A-O</b> Source: <a href="http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html">http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html</a> , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]
<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	80 (www), 137 (netbios-ns), 1434 (ms-sql-m), 445 (microsoft-ds), 25 (smtp), 139 (netbios-ssn), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 0 (---), 113 (ident) Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center

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## General Sector

34. *March 26, New York Times* — **As possible terrorist targets, universities are taking precautions.** In recent weeks, many colleges have been peppered with calls from parents asking how the institutions planned to protect their sons and daughters in case of a terrorist attack. In February, the Bush administration said campuses were possible targets of terrorists, and most colleges are taking precautions. **College officials who handle study abroad have also been trying to reassure students and their parents. Duke University, for example, sent e-mail messages to 112 students studying in Western Europe, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Bermuda and Russia, advising them to keep a low profile, travel in small groups and avoid typically American hangouts like the embassy or cafes that might be obvious targets. The university also suggested that the students not dress in an "overtly American way," like wearing shirts bearing college names or logos. Colleges are also trying to ensure that students have people they can turn to on campus to discuss their concerns, including mental health counselors, dormitory assistants and professors.** The Sept. 11 attacks have given some campuses practice in dealing with emergencies. New York University, for example, had to move hundreds of students from residence halls too close to the World Trade Center, and to provide them with food, clothing and shelter.  
Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/03/26/education/26COLL.html>

35. *March 26, BBC News* — **Pakistan and India test missiles.** Both Pakistan and India say they have carried out test-launches of short-range, nuclear-capable missiles on Wednesday. **The Indian defence ministry first said it had concluded a successful launch of its Prithvi surface-to-surface missile from the Chandipur test site in eastern Orissa state. Shortly afterwards the Pakistani foreign ministry said it had test-fired an Abdali missile.** Pakistan said it had informed India about its launch but that it was taken by surprise by the Indian test-firing. Indian defence ministry spokesman Baljit Singh Menon said the Prithvi launch was a routine test to improve the version to be used by the army. **Pakistan and India have carried**

out tit-for-tat missile tests several times in recent months and have also expelled several of each other's diplomats.

Source: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south\\_asia/2887931.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/2887931.stm)

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## **DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information**

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) Directorate serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, and vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#) – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Publications](#) – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

[DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive](#) – Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports

### **DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

Content and Suggestions: [nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov](mailto:nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov) or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at 202-324-1129

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